

MINUTES
of the
SANTA BARBARA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: April 27, 2004

PLACE: 550 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair John Britton, Directors Brian Fahnestock, David Davis, Olivia Rodriguez, Lee Moldaver and Interim General Manager Sherrie Fisher

OTHERS PRESENT: Browning Allen and Dan Secord (City of Santa Barbara), Josh Molina (SB News Press), Steve Maas, Rachel Grossman, Jerry Estrada, Lynnette Coverly, David Damiano, Jim Haggerty and Barbra Nelson (MTD).

1. **Call to Order**
Chair John Britton called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
2. **Roll Call of the Board of Directors**
Chair Britton noted that all Board members were present.
3. **Report Regarding Posting of Agenda**
Board Clerk Barbra Nelson reported that the agenda for this meeting was posted at the MTD administrative headquarters and on the MTD Website last week and mailed to media of general circulation.
4. **Approval of Prior Minutes**
Chair Britton announce the board was asked to waive the reading of, and approve the minutes of April 13, 2004. Director Rodriguez moved to waive the reading of the minutes; Director Moldaver seconded the motion. Chair Britton asked if there was any discussion, Director Moldaver abstained because he was absent from the last meeting. All in favor 4 ayes, 0 nays.
5. **Cash Report**
Director Lee Moldaver moved to accept the Cash report for April 6, through April 19, 2004. Director Fahnestock seconded the motion. Director Fahnestock asked a question whether UST (Underground Storage Tank) fees, will these fees be one time or ongoing? Sherrie Fisher stated there would be ongoing UST fees related to both Overpass Rd. facility as well as 550 Olive St.
6. **Public Comment**
Lee Moldaver gave recognition to recently deceased past board member Louis Zeluck. Sherrie Fisher stated a card had been sent regarding condolences.
7. **MTD Conflict of Interest Code Revisions (attachment – action may be taken)**
The General Manager explained a typo on page 17 and the report was ready for board approval.

Director Fahnestock raised a question about whether or not free bus passes are allowed for Board members. Director Moldaver gave an example of how he is able to monitor the system by riding the bus. Director Britton chose to postpone this item.
8. **Review of Proposed Fall Route and Schedule Changes prior to Public Meeting and May 11th Public Hearing (attachment – no action will be taken)**
Steve Maas, Manager of Planning, presented an overall picture of proposed schedule changes pointing to enhancement of service. Using passenger input and public meetings, planning gathered both qualitative and quantitative information to suggest proposed changes. This review included route analysis, service evaluation, and staff ride-alongs

Rachel Grossman, Planner explained proposed service changes in detail. Recent improvements include marketing and passenger facilities with upgraded passenger information and bus stops. New diesel buses will all be equipped with bike racks. Line 22 will provide year round bus service to Botanic Gardens on weekends. She followed this with a line-by-line review of proposed changes to specific routes and schedules, emphasizing reallocation of hours from low ridership portions of to increase service to well traveled portions. Director Rodriguez questioned the larger bike racks (3 bike vs. 2 bike); one of these racks is being tested.

9. Drug and Alcohol Policy Update (attachment-action may be taken)

Sherrie Fisher noted an updated report is required due to changes in federal regulations. The Board voted to adopt the updated policy. Director Moldaver moved to accept, Director Davis seconded.

Quarterly Financial report (attachment)

Jerry Estrada gave a snapshot MTD finances. describing the purchase of 30' and 40' buses and the completion of the lease agreement with Santa Barbara Bank and Trust. He explained savings related to bus parts emphasizing the benefit of the consolidated facility. Mr. Estrada also stated the fare box ratio has increased even though some one-time items have skewed these numbers. .

The continuing resolution for Federal Operating Assistance terminates April 30, 2004. MTD is hopeful for a new resolution, effective May 1, 2004, to offset any financial problems. Workers Compensation is high and the premium is doubling this year. The following are in-line with budget: Bus Advertising, Property Tax Revenue, and LTF Subsidy. The proposed budget for the new fiscal year will be presented May 25, 2004

10. MTD Board of Director Committees

Director Britton announced directors Olivia Rodriguez and Brian Fahnestock would form an ad hoc committee regarding union negotiations. Director Fahnestock and Mr. Estrada will form a financial advisory committee reporting back to the other board members.

12. General Manager's Report/Update (attachment-no action will be taken)

Ms. Fisher reported that one incident has occurred with the 'test' 3-Bike bike rack. Operations is eliciting driver in-put regarding the number of bikes missed due to the two bike limit on most racks. Fourteen bikes were refused during a three-week study period.

Property Insurance: no property insurance quotes received to date, but the carrier expects new rates to be close to current. Ms Fisher went on to suggest 'self insuring' the Goleta facility.

Discussion regarding the Downtown Waterfront Shuttle included the fare increase under discussion by the city, and reallocation of service hours.

Ms. Fisher noted that Hot Spots (coffee house) is providing Internet access to the Transit Center and 30 other locations with free access to MTD information.

13. Other Business and Committee Reports

Two proposed Milpas St. bus shelters were discussed. Only one can be constructed from the grant due to an increase in costs.

Director Moldaver stated concerns regarding the company chosen to recruit a general manager. Mr. Moldaver prefers a wider scope of the search.

Chairman Britton explained that the board intends to keep moving forward, this is merely the first step, and that the entire board will be involved in the final decision. He stated that Mr. Rodriguez will assist the board, not choose for them.

Director Davis stated that he and Chair Britton, as a subcommittee, oversee the filing process. Mr. Moldaver thanked him for the explanation and reiterated that the scope of the search is too small.

Director Rodriguez noted the board agreed to begin with a small-scale local search and if the right candidate is not available a wider search would ensue.

Director Davis interjected that though he respects Director Moldaver position, it would not have changed his vote.

Director Fahnestock stated the contract had been signed, that he hoped they could carry on with the plans at hand and the recruitment would go well

Director Moldaver then took the time to extend his thanks and appreciation to Ms. Barbra Nelson for her service.

Chairman Britton too thanked Barbra for her service, particularly in bringing the boards attention to the Brown Act.

Director Moldaver mentioned an upcoming workshop on 'public process' May 5, 2004 and he recommended Ms. Fisher and Mr. Haggerty attend.

Ms. Fisher stated she was signed up for the workshop and that we would sign up Mr. Haggerty too..

14. Adjournment

Director Fahnestock moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Director Davis, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45.